

CLAIMS

Claims 1-17. (cancelled)

18. (original) A personal watercraft comprising:

a hull including a bottom hull and a top deck secured over the bottom hull, the hull defining an engine compartment sized to contain an internal combustion engine for powering a jet propulsion unit, the jet propulsion unit including a steerable water discharge nozzle, the top deck having a raised, longitudinally extending seat adapted to accommodate an operator in straddle fashion,

wherein the top deck has a footwell disposed on either side of the seat,

wherein the footwell is formed between an inner wall and an outer wall,

wherein the footwell has a length, and a top width between the inner wall and the outer wall,

wherein the footwell includes a bottom surface, the bottom surface having a substantially horizontal portion beside the seat extending forward to a bend, and an upwardly angled portion extending forward of the bend;

wherein the footwell has a section along its length having a front disposed near the bend and a rear disposed at least 2 feet to the rear of the bend, wherein the footwell section has a top width that increases forwardly over the length of the section, wherein the top width near the section front is greater than 10 1/2 inches.

19. (original) A personal watercraft as in claim 18, wherein the footwell top width near the bend is greater than 12 inches.

20. (original) A personal watercraft as in claim 18, wherein the footwell section has a top width that increases continuously over the length of the section, wherein the footwell top width near the bend is greater than 12 inches.

21. (original) A personal watercraft as in claim 18, wherein the footwell top width near the bend is not less than 13 inches.

22. (original) A personal watercraft as in claim 18, wherein the footwell section has a top width that increases continuously over the length of the section, wherein the footwell top width near the bend is greater than 13 inches.

23. (original) A personal watercraft comprising:

a hull including a bottom hull and a top deck secured over the bottom hull, the hull defining an engine compartment sized to contain an internal combustion engine for powering a jet propulsion unit, the jet propulsion unit including a steerable water discharge nozzle, the top deck having a raised, longitudinally extending seat adapted to accommodate an operator in straddle fashion,

wherein the top deck has a footwell disposed on either side of the seat,

wherein the footwell is formed between an inner wall and an outer wall,

wherein the footwell has a length, and a top width between the inner wall and the outer wall,

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wherein the footwell includes a bottom surface, the bottom surface having a substantially horizontal portion beside the seat extending forward to a bend, and an upwardly angled portion extending forward of the bend;

wherein the footwell top width near bend is greater than 11 1/2 inches.

24. (original) A personal watercraft as in claim 23, wherein the footwell top width near the bend is greater than 12 inches.

25. (original) A personal watercraft as in claim 23, wherein the footwell top width near the bend is not less than 13 inches.

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